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NLO

CENTRAL FILES

February 25, 1957

TRIP REPORT TO PODBEILNIAC CORP., CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ON FEBRUARY 14, 1957

J. A. Quigley, M.D.

Keith N. Ross

#### Objective of Trip

The purpose of this trip was to see that equipment belonging to Podbeilniac Corporation and used by NLO personnel in an extraction experiment was satisfactorily decontaminated.

#### Conclusions and Recommendations

The equipment was made of stainless steel and was easily decontaminated.

#### Persons Visited

William Sullivan, Engineer demonstrating equipment

#### Description of Trip

The equipment consisted of stainless steel pressure tanks connected by copper tubing through a flow indicator to a stainless steel extractor. Stainless steel lines from the extractor to a drum took extracted materials from the extractor. This drum containing uranium in solution was returned to the project.

There were no large spills of uranium. A few leaks and drips were detected but these were easily cleaned up. The highest reading obtained was 1.0 mr/hr on a rubber vibration damper on the floor. This reading was reduced to 0.08 mr/hr by cleaning with detergent and water.

The equipment was rinsed by running dilute nitric acid and water through it and by hosing down the outside and floor. The water from the internal and external rinse was found to contain less than 25 ppm uranium and was discharged to the sewer. Readings on the equipment and floor at this time showed 0.05 to 0.10 mr/hr, which was only slightly above background of 0.04 to 0.07 mr/hr. The equipment and floor were then washed with detergent and rinsed with clear water and readings at this time showed no spots over 0.08 mr/hr. The probe was lowered into the sewer and showed only background. Several readings taken inside the extractor and pressure tanks showed no higher reading than 0.07 mr/hr. The material taken from the project and accumulated waste solutions were stored in drums which were loaded on an NLO truck. The truck and its load was found to have no excess activity and was returned to the project. A final reading on all equipment and floor space used showed no readings higher than background.

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Miscellaneous Comments

There was very good cooperation from Mr. Sullivan and his helper in accomplishing the decontamination and pointing out spots of possible high contamination.

Commitments

None

*Keith N. Ross*  
Keith N. Ross

KNR:bg

cc: G. W. Wunder (2)  
R. C. Heatherton

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